(b) The scheme; namely, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Liberation of Scavengers, has been introduced in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Central assistance of Rs. 127.77 lakhs was given to the Govt, of Orissa during the last three years.

Plight of Coconut growers in Kerala

*74. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the plight of the coconut growers in Kerala because of the steep fall in the price of coconuts this year;

(b) if so, whether the NAFED has entered the markets to purchase both coconut and copra;

(c) whether it is a fact that NAFED has not fixed a minimum support price which is very essential in view of the steep fall in prices; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction to the growers' demands in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NAFED has entered the market and has purchased a quantity of 1062 MTs of Copra between 19th May, 1989 to 17th July, 1989 as part of commercial operations.

(c) and (d) Minimum support price is fixed by the Government. We are going to declare minimum support price for copra today.

Profits earned by the undertakings under the control of Ministry of Food Processing Industries

*75. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of products manufactured by the Food Processing Industries during the last financial year;

(b) the profits earned by the various undertakings of the Ministry during the last financial year; and

(c) the quantum of products of the food processing undertakings exported during the last financial year alongwith the names of the countries to which exported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Food processing industries are in the organized, .unorganized and co-operative sectors. Information about quantum of products manufactured by them is not centrally maintained. However, production achieved in their various activities during 1988-89 by Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. and North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd., the public sector undertakings under the administrative charge of the Ministry, are given below :

Figures are provisional and unaudited

Modern Food Industries {India) Ltd.			
Bread & other bakery products	•	. 1760. loaves each.	97 lakhs of standard of 400 gm. each, j crates of 24 bottles

Sweetened aerated water concentrates	. 1649	units of 10 kg. each
Raw material processed in edible oil unit :		
	. 3695	tonnes
	. 3907	tonnes
	. 1330	tonnes
Fruit pulp ..... •	. 140	kg. of litchi pulp
	. 4083	tonnes
North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd.:		
Pineapple juice concentrate—	36	tonnes

As per estimates made by the Companies, Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. would incur a loss of around Rs. 65 lakhs during 1988-89, and North Eastern regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd. about 36 lakhs.

No exports were made by the two companies during 1988-89.

Demonstrations against the partisan functioning of Doordarshan and Akashvani

*76. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :
SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether demonstrations and dharnas were held in front of the Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras in various parts of the country on June 26. 1989 protesting against the partisan use of Radio and TV by the ruling party at the Centre in which prominent opposition party leaders and thousands of people participated;

(b) if so, the details of such demonstrations held, people arrested, etc. State-wise; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to maintain objectivity, impartiality and credibility of the official media ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Consequent on a call given by some opposition parties, demonstrations/ dharna were held at AIR and Doordarshan Kendras all over the country on 26-6-89. In most of the places, the demonstrators were made to disperse peacefully. The situation was, however, handled by the concerned State Government authorities since it was a law and order matter.

(c) TV and AIR have got Code of Conduct, Code for News and guidelines prescribed by the Government and always maintain objectivity, impartiality and credibility.

Visits by the Minister for Steel and Mines abroad

•77. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJT : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the countries visited by the Minister for Steel and Mines during the last week of April and first week of May, 1989;

(b) whether any negotiations and agreements were reached during these visits; and